



# Why “Study” About Prayer?





“The work of John the Baptist is our work.”  
The Central Advance, April 8th 1903



What is our work? The same as that given  
to John the Baptist.... {8T 9}





# REVIVAL & REFORMATION

A revival need be expected  
ONLY in answer to  
prayer.-- 1SM 121 (1887).  
{LDE 189.1}



# The “DIVINE SCIENCE”



**Prayer** and **faith** are **closely allied**, and **they need to be studied together**. In the prayer of faith there is a **divine science**; it is a science that everyone who would **make his lifework a success** must understand. Christ says, “What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.” Mark 11:24. He makes it plain that our asking must be according to God’s will; **we must ask for the things that He has promised**, and **whatever we receive must be used in doing His will**. The conditions met, **the promise is unequivocal**. {Pr 57.1}

For the pardon of sin, for the Holy Spirit, for a Christlike temper, for wisdom and strength to do His work, for **any gift He has promised**, we may ask; **then we are to believe that we receive**, and **return thanks to God that we have received**.—(Education, 257, 258.) {Pr 57.2}





# Jesus' Example

Mark 1:35


**There is a special blessing that  
cannot be obtained at any  
other time!**

**Prov 8:17**

**Ex 16:14–15, 19–21**



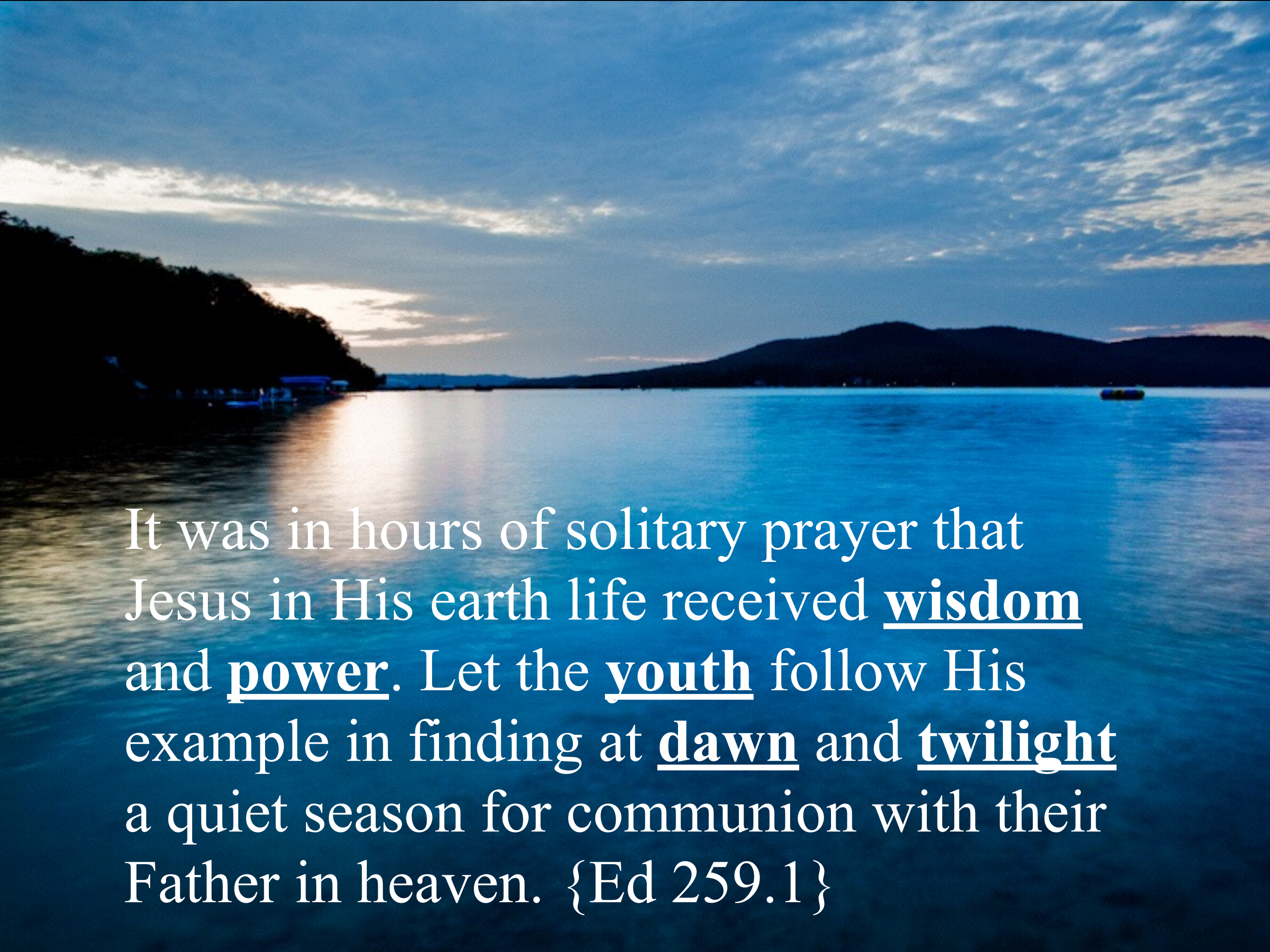




The Saviour's life on  
earth was a life of  
communion with  
nature and with God.  
In this communion He  
revealed for us the  
**SECRET of a life of**  
**power.**

{MH 51.1}



A serene sunset or sunrise over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright reflection on the water's surface. The sky is a deep blue with scattered white clouds. In the background, there are dark, silhouetted hills. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

It was in hours of solitary prayer that Jesus in His earth life received wisdom and power. Let the youth follow His example in finding at dawn and twilight a quiet season for communion with their Father in heaven. {Ed 259.1}





# SECRET TO FAILURE

It is impossible for the seed of the word to bring forth fruit; for the life of the soul is given to nourish the thorns of worldliness. And many who are working with a very different purpose, fall into a like error. They are working for others' good; their duties are pressing, their responsibilities are many, and they allow their labor to crowd out devotion.

Communion with God through prayer and a study of His word is neglected...Here is one of the CHIEF SECRETS of failure in Christian work. This is why its results are often so meager.

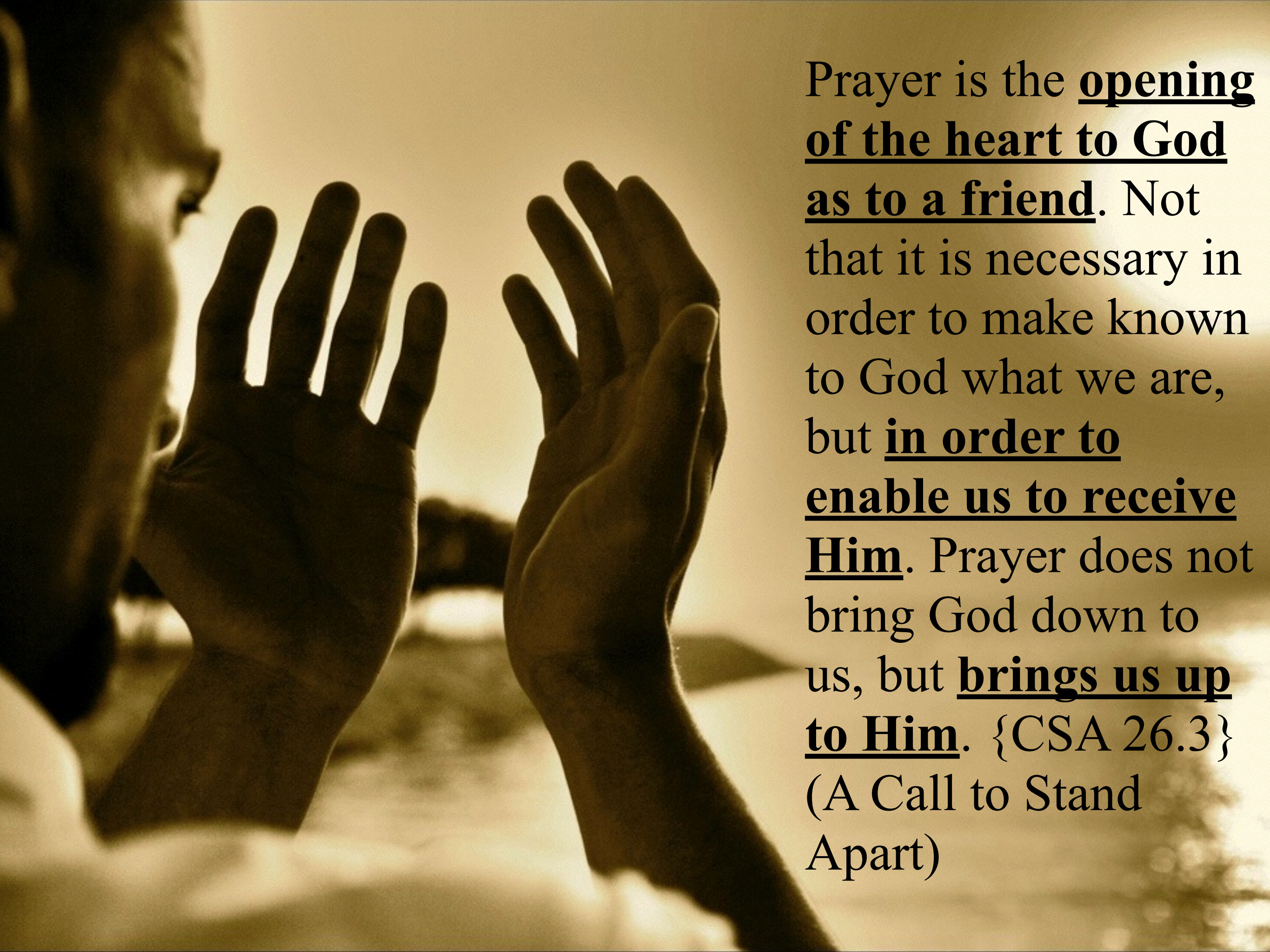
{COL 52.1}



# What is Prayer?

Matthew 7:7



A person is shown in profile on the left side of the image, with their hands raised in a gesture of prayer. The background is a warm, golden light, possibly from a sunset or sunrise, creating a soft, ethereal atmosphere. The person's face is partially visible, looking upwards. The hands are open, with fingers spread, and are positioned in front of the person's chest.

Prayer is the opening of the heart to God as to a friend. Not that it is necessary in order to make known to God what we are, but in order to enable us to receive Him. Prayer does not bring God down to us, but brings us up to Him. {CSA 26.3} (A Call to Stand Apart)



What should we pray  
for?



# What Should We Ask (Pray) For?

Ask ye of the  
LORD rain in the  
time of the latter  
rain; so the LORD  
shall make bright  
clouds, and give  
them showers of  
rain, to every one  
grass in the field.

Zechariah 10:1





**How often should we pray?**

Daniel 6:10



It is just as  
convenient, just  
as essential, for  
us to pray three  
times a day as  
it was for  
Daniel. Prayer  
is the life of  
the soul, the  
foundation of  
spiritual growth.  
{DG 83.5}





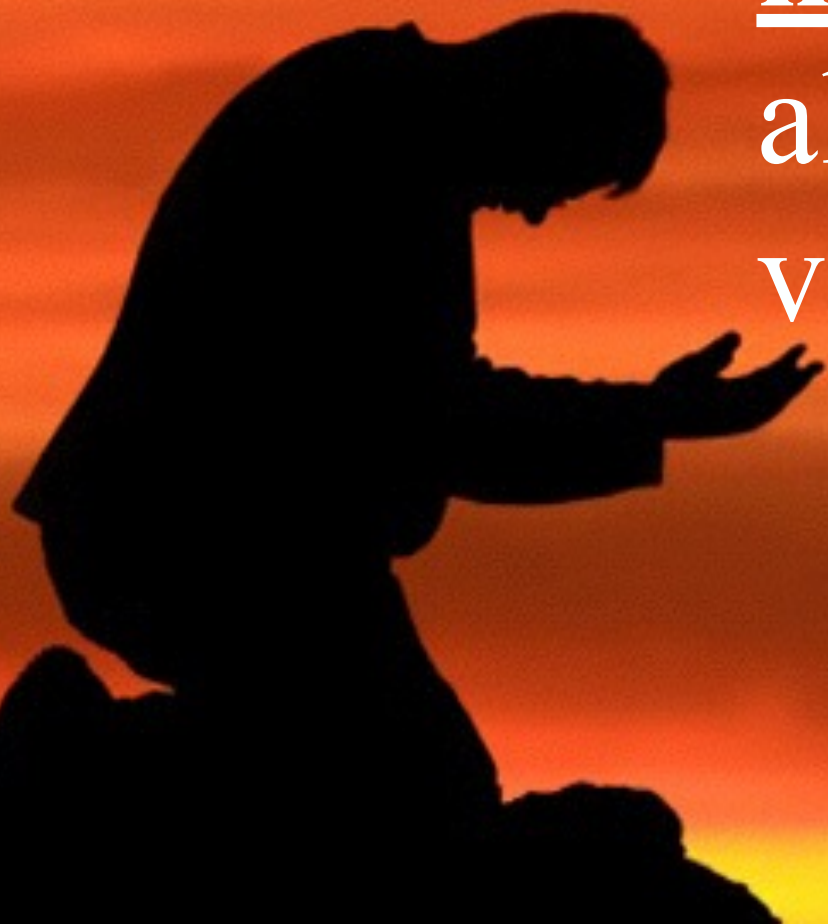


**TIME**  
to pray



# Time for Prayer

Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice. {Psalm 55:17}





# Are There False forms of Prayer?

Matthew 6:5-7/Jeremiah 10:1 & 2







# THE TRINITY







**Spiritual Formation**



# THE INNER VOICE: GOD IS CALLING YOU

## CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

The Sacred Art Of Learning To Comprehend Your Own Thoughts As The Voice Of God

Contemplative prayer begins with “centering prayer,” a meditative practice where the practitioner focuses on a word and repeats that word over and over for the duration of the exercise. The purpose is to clear one’s mind of outside concerns so that God’s voice may be more easily heard. After the centering prayer, the practitioner is to sit still, listen for direct guidance from God, and feel His presence.



# “Bible Meditation”

**MEDITATE**- siyach, see'-akh; a primitive root; **to ponder**

**PONDER**- to consider something **deeply** and **thoroughly**; meditate

“This **book of the law** shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt **meditate therein** day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. "...{**Joshua 1:8**}

But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and **in his law** doth he **meditate** day and night."...{**Psalms 1:2**}

I will **meditate in thy precepts**, and have respect unto thy ways. "...{**Psalms 119:15**}

Mine eyes prevent the night watches, that I might **meditate in thy word**."...{**Psalms 119:148**}

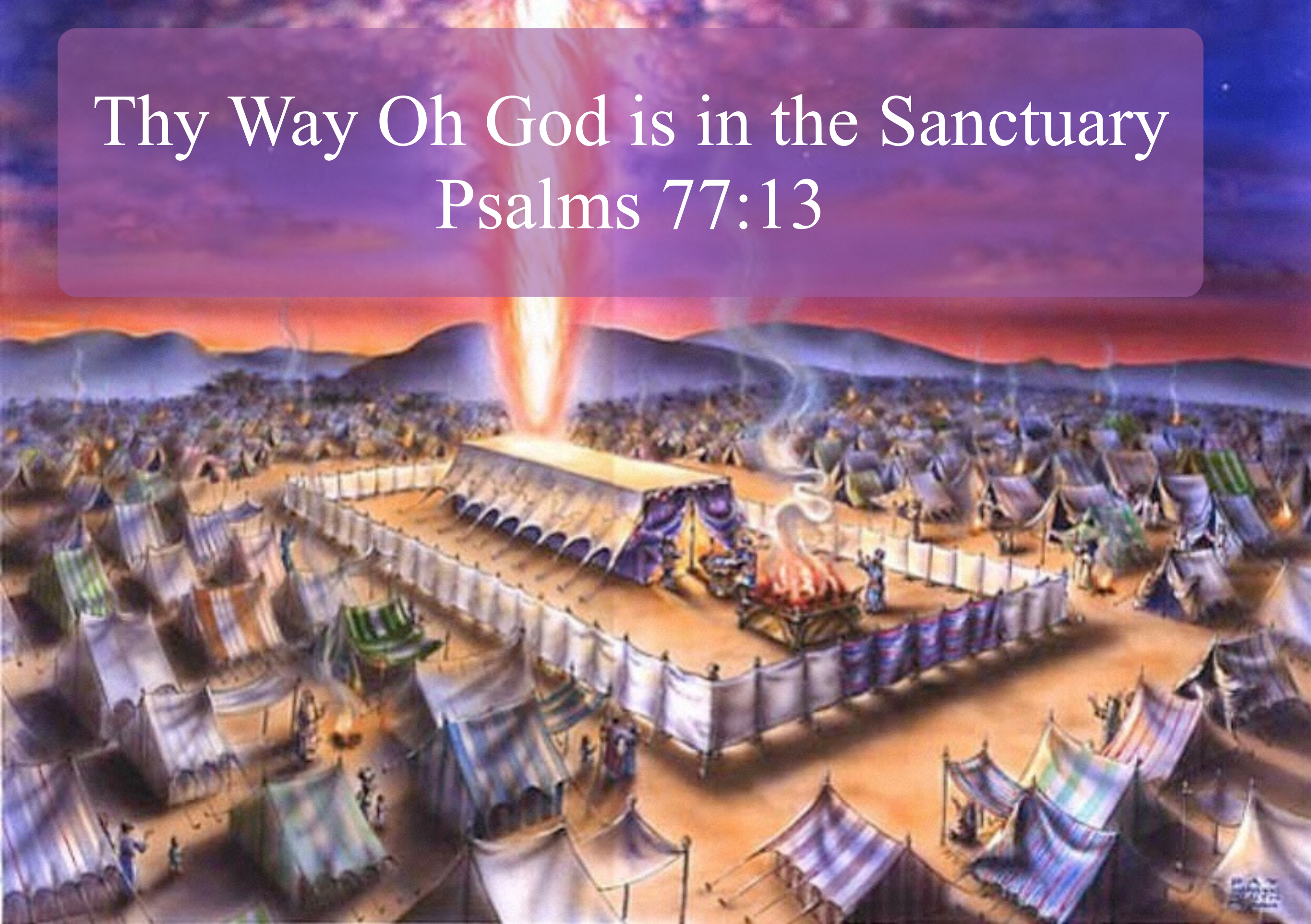


# What Makes Our Prayers Acceptable?



# Thy Way Oh God is in the Sanctuary

## Psalms 77:13







By His spotless life, His obedience, His death on the cross of Calvary, Christ interceded for the lost race. And now, not as a mere petitioner does the Captain of our salvation intercede for us, but as a Conqueror claiming His victory. His offering is complete, and as our Intercessor He executes His self-appointed work, holding before God the censer containing His own spotless merits and the prayers, confessions, and thanksgiving of His people. Perfumed with the fragrance of His righteousness, these ascend to God as a sweet savor. The offering is wholly acceptable, and pardon covers all transgression. {COL 156}



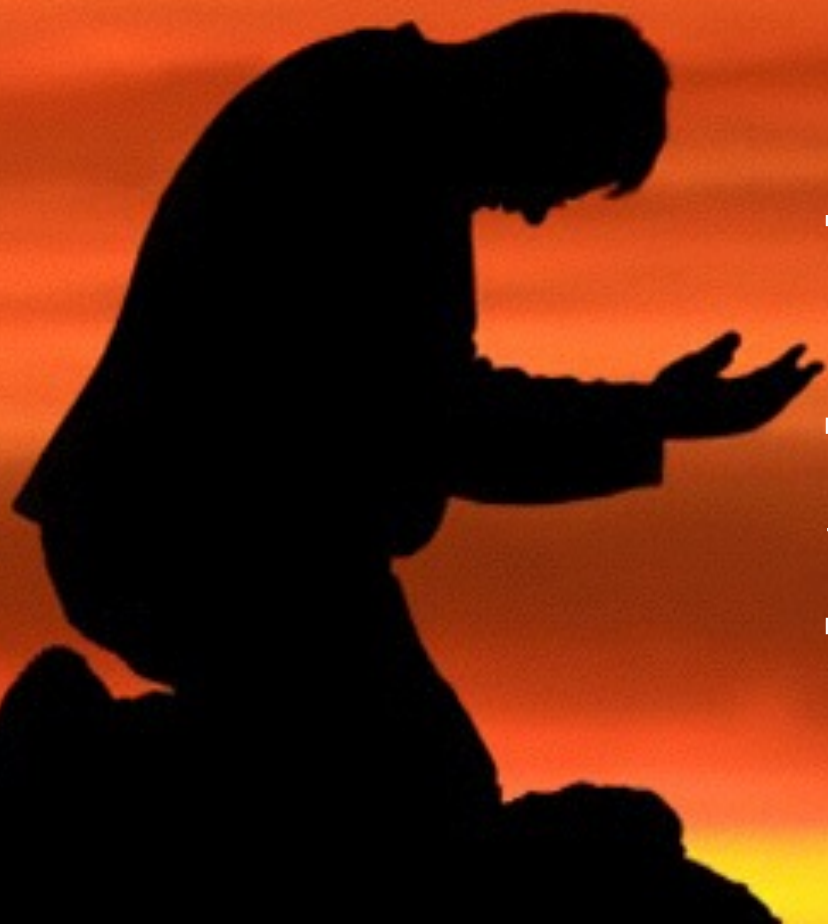
# To Whom Should We Pray?

John 15:16/14:13



# Pray in Jesus' Name

To pray in Christ's name means much. It means that we are to accept His character, manifest His spirit, and work His works. {DA 668}



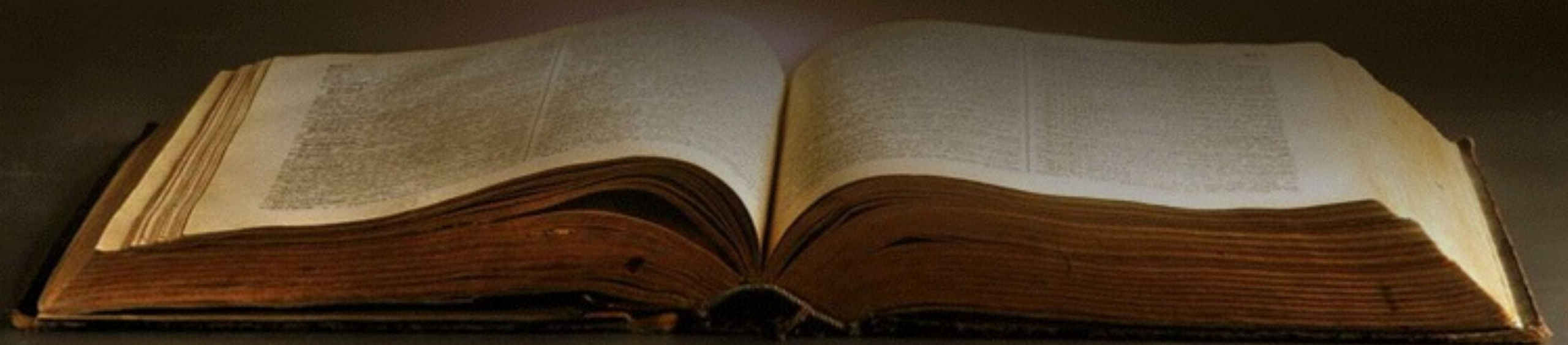


LISTEN





The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of  
the learned, that I should know how to speak  
a word in season to him that is weary: he  
wakeneth morning by morning, he  
wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.  
{Isaiah 50:4}







How does God speak to us?

“The **Scriptures** are to be received as God's word to us, not written merely, but spoken.”

MH 122.2





So with all the promises of God's word. In them He is speaking to us individually, speaking as directly as if we could listen to His voice. It is in these promises that Christ communicates to us His grace and power. They are leaves from that tree which is "for the healing of the nations." Revelation 22:2. Received, assimilated, they are to be the strength of the character, the inspiration and sustenance of the life. **Nothing** else can have such healing power. **Nothing** besides can impart the courage and faith which give vital energy to the whole being.

{MH 122.3}



# What are some Prayer Necessities

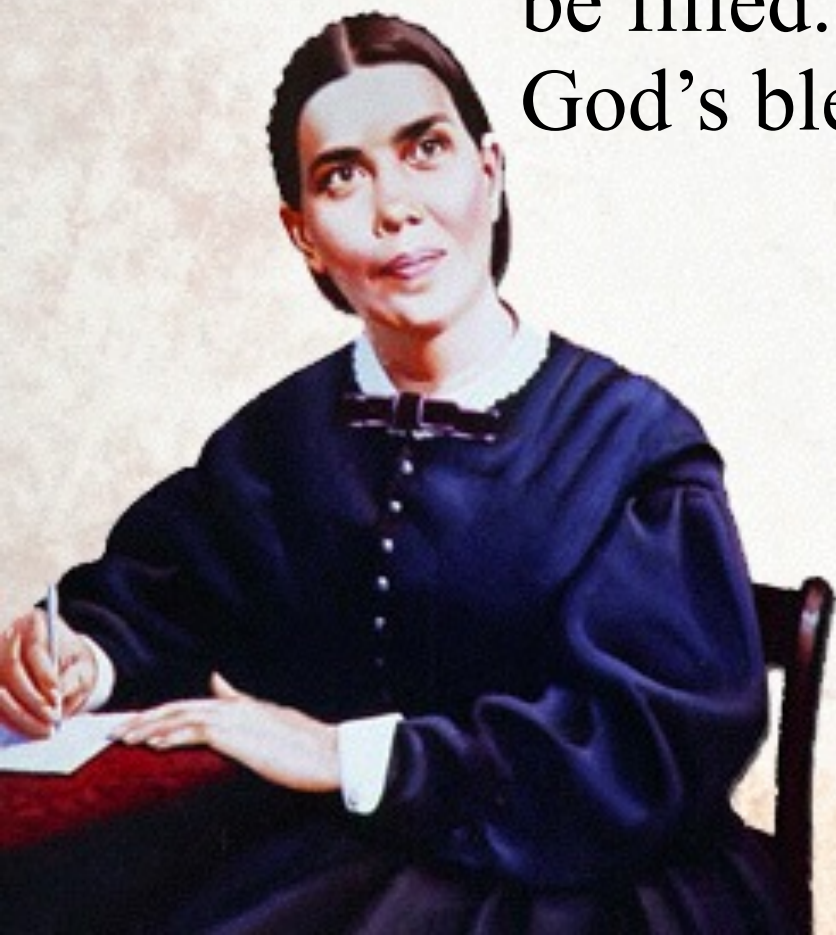
Sensing the Need

Psalms 121:1 & 2



# PEN OF *Inspiration*

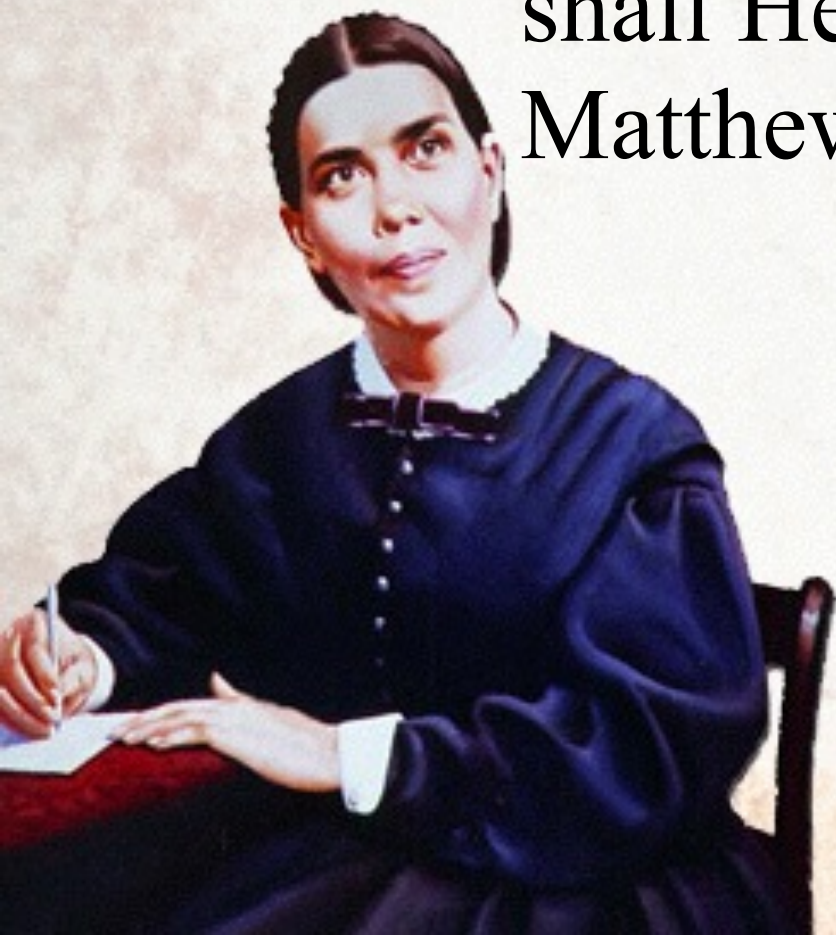
There are certain conditions upon which we may expect that God will hear and answer our prayers. One of the first of these is that **we feel our need of help from Him**. He has promised, "I will pour water upon him **that is thirsty**, and floods upon the dry ground." Isaiah 44:3. Those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, **who long after God**, may be sure that they will be filled. The heart must be open to the Spirit's influence, or God's blessing cannot be received. {SC 95.1}





# PEN OF *Inspiration*

**Our great need is itself an argument and pleads most eloquently in our behalf.** But the Lord is to be sought unto to do these things for us. He says, "Ask, and it shall be given you." And "He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Matthew 7:7; Romans 8:32. {SC 95.2}





**What are some Prayer Necessities**  
**Belief**

**Hebrews 11:6/Mark 11:24**



The assurance is broad and unlimited, and He is faithful who has promised. When we do not receive the very things we asked for, at the time we ask, **we are still to believe that the Lord hears and that He will answer our prayers.** We are so erring and short-sighted that we sometimes ask for things that would not be a blessing to us, and our heavenly Father **in love** answers our prayers by giving us that which will be for our highest good--that which we ourselves would desire if with vision divinely enlightened we could see all things as they really are.





When our prayers seem not to be answered, we are to cling to the promise; for the time of answering will surely come, and we shall receive the blessing we need most. But to claim that prayer will always be answered in the very way and for the particular thing that we desire, is presumption. God is too wise to err, and too good to withhold any good thing from them that walk uprightly. Then do not fear to trust Him, even though you do not see the immediate answer to your prayers. Rely upon His sure promise, "Ask, and it shall be given you." {SC 96.2}





**What are some Prayer Necessities**

**Forgiveness**  
**Matthew 6:12**



When we come to ask mercy and blessing from God we should have a spirit of love and forgiveness in our own hearts. How can we pray, "Forgive us our debts, *as* we forgive our debtors," and yet indulge an unforgiving spirit? Matthew 6:12. If we expect our own prayers to be heard we must forgive others in the same manner and to the same extent as we hope to be forgiven. {SC 97.1}



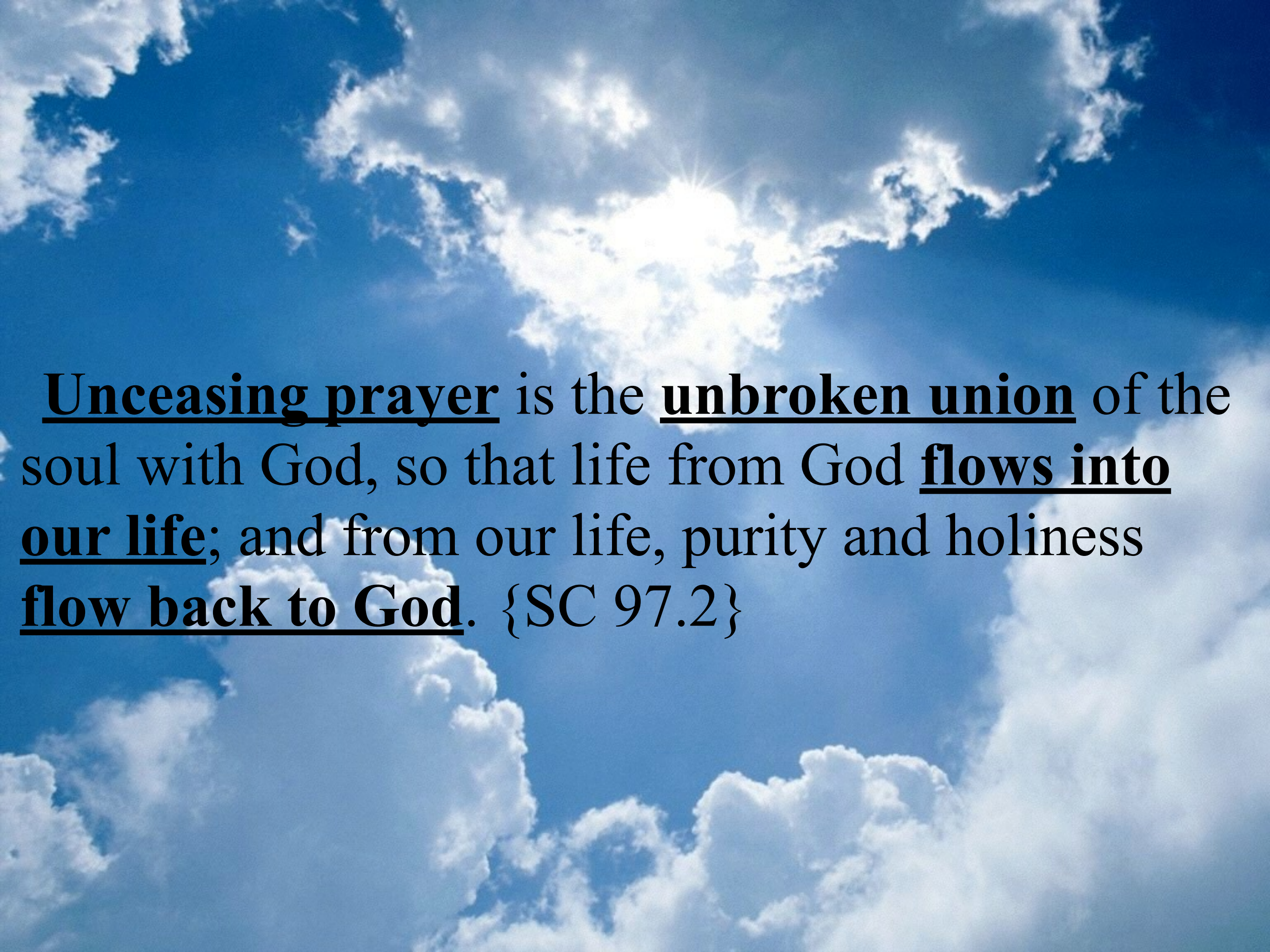


# What are some Prayer Necessities

**Diligence**

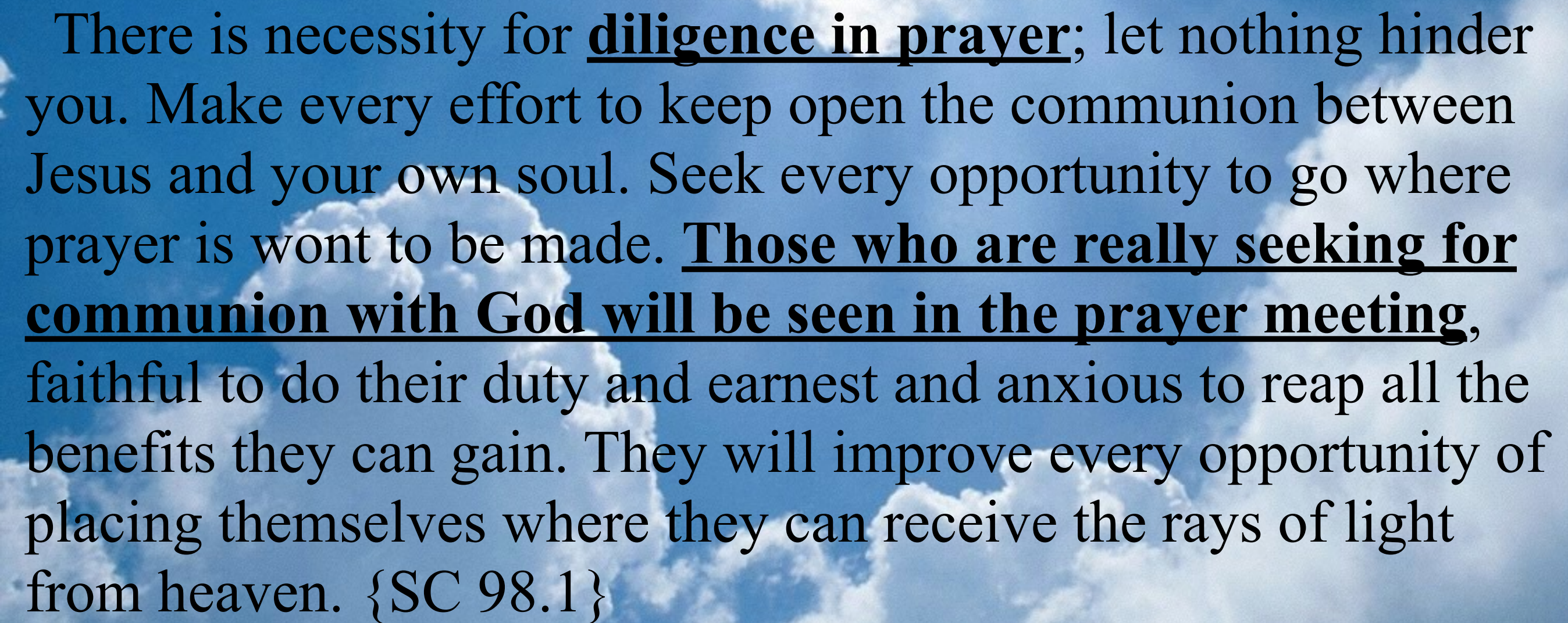
**Colossians 4:2/1st Thessalonians  
5:17**





**Unceasing prayer** is the **unbroken union** of the soul with God, so that life from God **flows into our life**; and from our life, purity and holiness **flow back to God**. {SC 97.2}





There is necessity for **diligence in prayer**; let nothing hinder you. Make every effort to keep open the communion between Jesus and your own soul. Seek every opportunity to go where prayer is wont to be made. **Those who are really seeking for communion with God will be seen in the prayer meeting,** faithful to do their duty and earnest and anxious to reap all the benefits they can gain. They will improve every opportunity of placing themselves where they can receive the rays of light from heaven. {SC 98.1}



**What are some Prayer Necessities**

**Secret Prayer**

**Matthew 6:6**



# PEN OF *Inspiration*

We should pray in the family circle, and above all we must not neglect secret prayer, for this is the life of the soul. It is impossible for the soul to flourish while prayer is neglected. Family or public prayer alone is not sufficient. In solitude let the soul be laid open to the inspecting eye of God. Secret prayer is to be heard only by the prayer-hearing God.





# PEN OF *Inspiration*

No curious ear is to receive the burden of such petitions. In secret prayer the soul is free from surrounding influences, free from excitement. Calmly, yet fervently, will it reach out after God. Sweet and abiding will be the influence emanating from Him who seeth in secret, whose ear is open to hear the prayer arising from the heart. By calm, simple faith the soul holds communion with God and gathers to itself rays of divine light to strengthen and sustain it in the conflict with Satan. God is our tower of strength.  
{SC 98.2}





# PEN OF *Inspiration*

Pray in your closet, and as you go about your daily labor let your heart be often uplifted to God. **It was thus that Enoch walked with God.** These silent prayers rise like precious incense before the throne of grace. **Satan cannot overcome him whose heart is thus stayed upon God.** {SC 98.3}





# Hindrances to Answered Prayer

Harboring Iniquity

Psalms 66:18/Proverbs 28:9

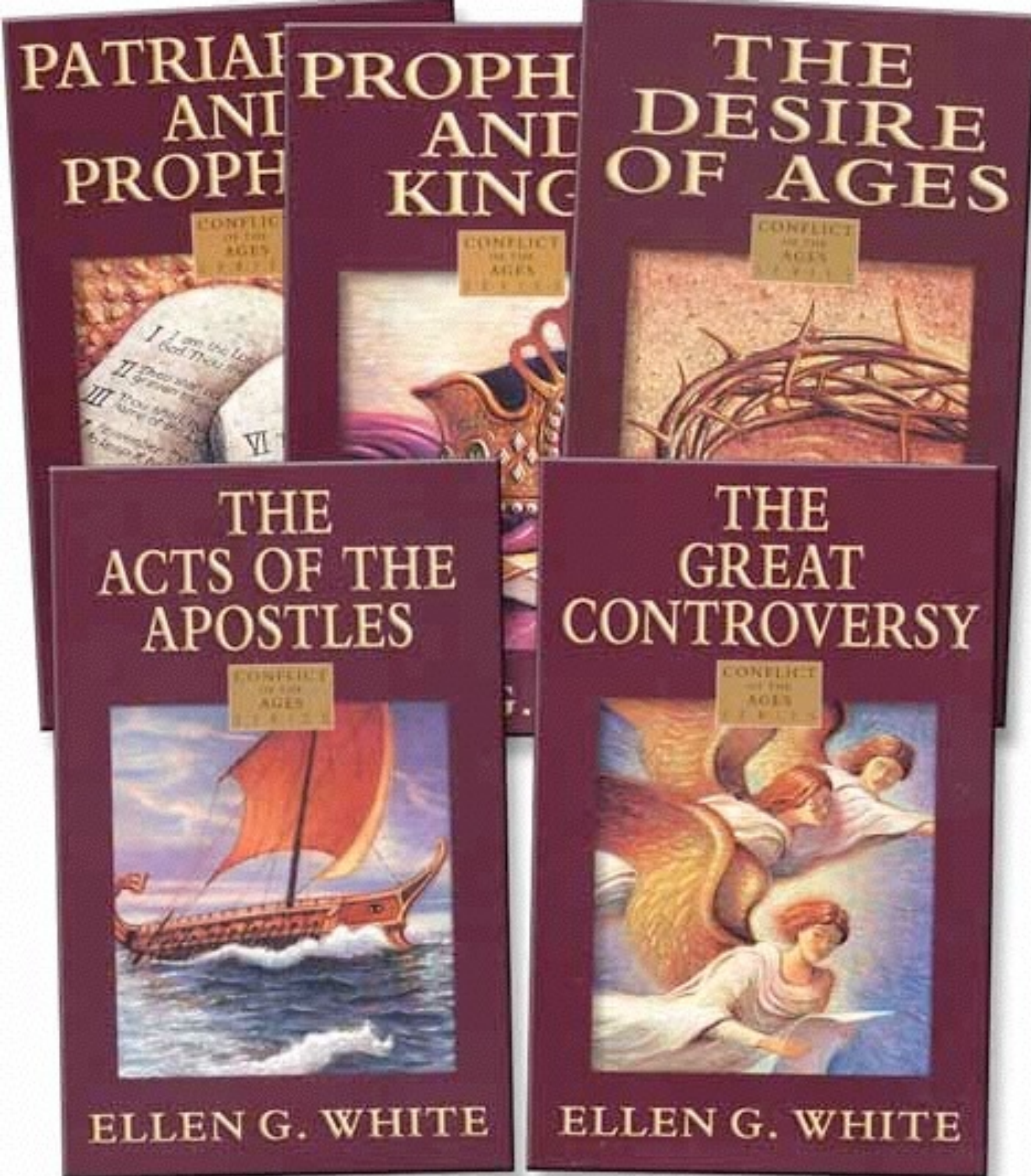


# PEN OF *Inspiration*

If we regard iniquity in our hearts, if we cling to any **known sin**, the Lord will not hear us; but the prayer of the penitent, contrite soul is always accepted. **When** all **known wrongs** are righted, **we may believe that God will answer our petitions**. Our own merit will never commend us to the favor of God; **it is the worthiness of Jesus that will save us**, His blood that will cleanse us; yet we have a work to do in complying with the conditions of acceptance. [BEGIN P.96]  
{SC 95.3}







**Study 3 chapters of bible per day and 10 pages from your book.**

1) What was the lesson talking about

2) What does it have to do with me

3) What did I learn of God's character



**John 5:30** – “I can of mine own self do nothing...I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father that has sent me “

**John 6:38** – “For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me”

**Luke 2:49** – “I must be about my Fathers business”

**John 4:34** – “My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish the work”

**Luke 22:42** – “not my will, but thine be done”

